UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Civil Action No. 75-226

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES T. TAGUE

1. My name is James T. Tague. I live at 14324 Shoredale Lane, Dallas, Texas. I am the Fleet Sales Manager of Steakley Chevrolet, Inc., at 6411 East Northwest Highway, Dallas, Texas, an automobile dealership which employs over 200 people.

2. I am the bystander mentioned in the Warren Commission Report as having received a minor wound in the shooting that killed President John Kennedy and seriously wounded then Texas Governor John Connally.

3. The place at which the assassination occurred is known as Dealy Plaza. It is bounded on the north by Elm Street, on the south by Commerce Street, with Main Street between them. At that time, Elm Street was a one-way street headed west and Commerce Street was a one-way street headed east. These three streets flow together at the west end of Dealy Plaza at what is known as the "Triple Underpass," formed by bridges and an excavation to permit traffic to flow underneath the wide railroad tracks.

4. At shortly before 12:30 p.m., Dallas time, on November 22, 1963, I was driving east on Commerce Street, in the northern (left) lane. As I was about to emerge from under the triple underpass, I was blocked by stopped traffic. I left my car and was standing on the north side of Commerce Street between Commerce Street and Main Street, when the Presidential motorcade was going west on Elm Street.

5. As the motorcade came down Elm Street, I heard a noise that at first, sounded like an exploding firecracker. As I was looking around Dealy Plaza, trying to determine what it was that I had heard, I heard the sounds of the second and third shots. I saw people throwing themselves to the ground. I reacted by stepping behind a pillar of the

Triple Underpass. As I emerged from behind this pillar, a man, whom I later determined to be Deputy Sheriff Eddy R. "Buddy" Walthers, ran up to me and asked me if I had seen what had happened. After I told him that I did not know what had happened, we walked to where a small crowd had gathered around a motorcycle policeman. A man was exclaiming, "His head exploded! His head exploded! The President's head exploded!" At this point, Deputy Sheriff Buddy Walthers said that I had blood on my cheek. It was at this time that I remembered something had stung me on my cheek during the shooting. We walked back toward the place I had been standing. When we were approximately 30 to 40 feet from this point, Mr. Walthers exclaimed, "Look there, on the curb." There was a very fresh mark on the curb, which appeared to have been caused by a bullet. I recall that other officers came up and inspected this impact point. I recall that the motorcycle policeman called in on his police radio the fact that I had received a slight wound. I was then sent to the Homicide Section of the Dallas Police Department to give my statement. A homicide officer, whose name I do not recall, took my statement.

6. While this officer was taking my statement, Lee Harvey Oswald was brought into the adjoining cubicle, where there were many other police officers.

7. Since then, I have never seen the statement prepared by this homicide officer.

8. I later learned that on November 23, 1963, Deputy Sheriff Walthers took two photographers to the spot where I had been standing in Dealy Plaza and they photographed the curbstone, showing the point of impact from which I was wounded.

9. I now am not certain whether it was a fragment of bullet or a fragment of concrete that sprayed from the impact that caused my minor wound.

10. Because this was an event of some importance, I made some notes at that time, thinking that in the future, they might be of some interest to my children. I have also saved a few news stories.

11. I thought it was strange that with an extensive official investigation going on, that no FBI agent ever spoke to me when the fact of my minor wound was on the police radio and in police reports and when a picture of the impact on the curbstone had been printed in Dallas newspapers. A copy of one that I preserved is attached as Exhibit "A". This is one of the photographs taken on November 23, 19 by Tom Dillard, of the Dallas Morning News.

12. The next month, on December 13, 1963, after a news story headlined "Questions Raised on Murder Bullets" appeared in the Dallas Morning News I phoned the FBI. It then interviewed me the following day.

13. This news account goes into a question that perplexed me, in addition to the lack of official interest in a first-person account of some of the firing during the assassination. It is with President Kennedy's having received a fatal wound and a non-fatal wound and Governor Connally's having been wounded in three different parts of his body and with only three shots fired, what caused my wound when I was twice as far from the place the shots were said to have come from as the Presidential car was?

14. Because of the manner in which I preserved this news account, it did not keep in good condition. I have asked my wife to retype it, and her retyped copy and a photostat of the news story are attached herein as Exhibit "B".

15. While there are these and other news accounts, my own notes of the time and the FBI account of its interview with me all refer to a chipping of the curbstone, I now have no independent recollection of a chipped point. I am absolutely without doubt that there was a very visible mark and that Deputy Sheriff Walthers saw it from a distance.

16. All accounts are as this news story expressed it, "freshly made."

17. Harold Weisberg showed me a copy of the FBI's account of its December 14, 1963, interview with me on June 10, 1977. A copy of this report is attached, marked Exhibit "C". A sentence in it that refers to this and to what I then said about it reads, "He did look around

the curb and near where he was standing, there was a chip missing, which he stated looked fresh."

18. Mr. Weisberg has also shown me another two-page document, identified as Pages 32 and 33 of CR 1245. It is not dated. It purports to be what a Dallas Times Herald reporter named Jim Lehrer told FBI Agent Alfred C. Ellington. The initials at the top are "RPG". Mr. Weisberg has informed me that these are the initials of a since-retired agent, Robert P. Gamberling, who compiled and rewrote reports in the FBI's Dallas Field Office.

19. This document, attached as Exhibit "D", appears to be about twice as long as the FBI report that is Exhibit "C". I note that it contains no mention of any evidence of the shooting in the assassination and appears to be an effort to attack my credibility, without so stating. While it refers to what is called "his story" it makes no mention of the information I gave the FBI earlier or of the many independent confirmations of it in current news accounts quoting police officials or to the statement the Dallas police took from me the afternoon of the day of the assassination.

20. Aside from being what I regard as a prejudicial account, the FBI never checked with me if there is inaccuracy, whether or not intended prejudicially, in describing me as a "used car salesman" in the third paragraph. I have had a 16-year career in new car sales and fleet sales management. My specialty is fleet sales throughout the United States and abroad. These range from the sale of fleets of vans that are bullet-proofed in Dallas and are sent throughout the United States as the vehicles of the Purolator Armored Car Service, to foreign orde in the hundreds, including some that because of domestic business conditions, were too large to be contracted profitably.

21. Mr. Lehrer's account of his interview with me appeared in the Dallas Times Herald of June 5, 1964. It is attached herein as Exhibit "E". It states nothing that is alleged in the RPG report, Exhibit "D"; suggests nothing of the sort; and, in fact, says exactly the opposite of my being a self-seeker, or a publicity seeker:

"What bothers me is why nobody has taken an interest in my story before," said the 27-year-old man, who asked that his name not be used. (Emphasis added).

Mr. Lehrer had contacted me on the morning of June 5, 1964, and told me that a mutual friend had told him of my experience in Dealy Plaza on November 22, 1963, and wanted to know if he could come by and talk to me. I told him yes, and he came to my place of employment a few minutes later. I told him briefly of my experience and asked him not to use my name. Around noon, approximately an hour and a half after Mr. Lehrer had left, he called me, very excited. He told me, "They are calling me from all over on this story." I was a bit taken aback, and asked if the paper had come out already. He said no, he had put it on the wire service and Washington was calling--the FBI was calling, and they wanted to know who the man was in the article. He told me he had given them my name.

22. While after 13 years, I now have no independent recollection of the total conversation with Mr. Lehrer, I am certain it was not as represented in this secret record I saw for the first time on June 10, 1977. What appears to be more likely is my concern that Mr. Lehrer might try to use what I had told him for his personal gain. At that time, the large picture magazines were reportedly paying large sums for stories about the assassination.

23. Mr. Weisberg has also shown me other records bearing Warren Commission identifications. One of these, attached as Exhibit "F", shows that although I was publicly known to have been wounded, if very slightly, during the assassination, and had observed the impact point of a bullet fired during the assassination, the Warren Commission sought no information from me for more than six months. This memo of June 11, 1964, shows that as of that date, no effort had been made to "determine the knowledge of each on where the missing bullet struck." (The other person being Mrs. Donald Baker, in reference to another incident).

24. Exhibit "G" is the letter of about a month later in which I was finally asked to testify.

25. Exhibit "H" is the schedule for the taking of testimony that includes mine. It shows that for the testimony of four eye-witnesses, two of whom took pictures of the actual shooting, a total of three hours and fifteen minutes was allotted, if there was no break for lunch.

26. Mr. Weisberg has given me a photostatic copy of the stenographic transcript of my actual testimony before Wesley J. Leibeler, staff attorney of the Warren Commission. These pages are numbered from 57 to 76, inclusive.

27. Pages 62 and 66 are some of the questions and answers relating to the impact and the minor nature of the wound (Exhibit "I").

28. Pages 73-75, attached as Exhibit "J", contain questions and answers relating to where the shots appeared to me to come from. The reference in Mr. Liebeler's question on Page 73 to "behind the concrete monument here between five and seven, toward the general area of C?" is to a point marked on an aerial photograph of the scene of the crime. This point is about the middle of the north side of Dealy Plaza rather than the northeast corner of it where the Texas School Book Depository Building is. This is the area to which policemen and others rushed immediately. It is part of what is called "the grassy knoll".

29. Pages 68 and 69 (attached as Exhibit "K") include a very surprising disclosure by Mr. Liebeler when he questioned me. To the best of my knowledge, nobody knew I had returned to Dealy Plaza to take home movies of the mark on the curbstone in May of 1964, with which my minor wound was connected during these historic moments. Because as I testified, "I didn't know anybody knew about my taking these home movies." I was even more surprised when Mr. Liebeler asked me if a picture he showed me was an individual frame from my movies. This is not only because I had not given copies of my movies to anyone and no official investigator had asked for them or in any way indicated any knowledge of their existence. It is also because Mr. Liebeler's question on Page 68 actually indicates that officials had a copy of my movie film. His question is, "I show you Baker Exhibit No. 1 and

ask you if you took that picture." The fact is that my film has since disappeared from my home and I have no knowledge of how or under what circumstances.

30. Earlier this year, I obtained a copy of Mr. Weisberg's book, Post Mortem. It has several references to my experiences that tragic day. On Pages 608 and 609, it has pictures of the impact point on the curbstone. On November 22, 1963, approximately 10 minutes after the shots were fired in Dealy Plaza, I witnessed Mr. Walthers pointing out the mark to several people and some photographs being taken of this mark. After reading Post Mortem, I phoned Mr. Weisberg.

31. During our conversation, I told Mr. Weisberg of my taking movies of the curbstone and of the later disappearance of the film. He has given me and I have read a file of records relating to me from which the foregoing exhibits of official origin are selected, as well as the letter of February 3, 1977, to him from the National Archives enclosing "copies of the Warren Commission file relating to James Tague" (Exhibit "L").

32. There is no record among these indicating any basis for Mr. Liebele to have known that I had any film. There is no reference to my film of any kind, no matter how indirect, that even suggests its existence. There is only the disclosure of Mr. Liebeler's knowledge of it in the pages of the deposition attached hereto as Exhibit "K".

33. How any government agent or official knew I had taken these movies and how they later disappeared, I cannot explain.

34. I cannot be certain whether it was a fragment of bullet or a small piece of concrete that caused the minor cheek wound I sustained during the assassination of President Kennedy. There is not and never has been any doubt in my mind that this minor wound was associated with the mark on the curbstone, as every newspaper and official account I have seen states, including the Warren Report (Chapter III, Subtitle, "The Third Shot"). As Exhibit "B" states, from the moment of the shooting this was also the expressed belief of then Chief Criminal Deputy Sheriff Alan Sweatt and his assistant, Deputy Sheriff Buddy Walthers.

35. While after 13 years I am not certain about the nature of the visible point of impact on the curbstone, I am certain of the words of my testimony quoted in the Warren Report on this, "That there was a mark quite obviously that was a bullet, and it was very fresh."

James T. Tague

JAMES T. TAGUE

CITY OF DALLAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me this 11 day of July, 1977, deponent JAMES T. TAGUE has appeared and signed this affidavit, first having sworn that the statements made therein are true.

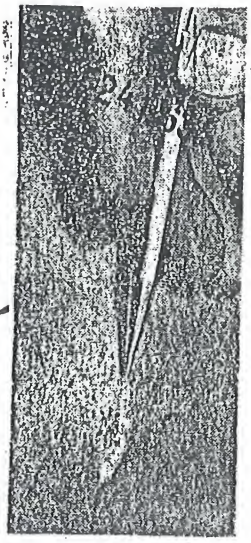
My commission expires July 1978.

Judith A. Gilbert

NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

A

1963 ****



—Dallas News Staff Photo.

CONCRETE SCAR

A detective points to a chip in the curb on Houston Street opposite the Texas School Book Depository. A bullet from the rifle that took President Kennedy's life apparently caused the hole.

PHOTO BY TOM C. DILLARD

EXHIBIT "B"

22--Section 1 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Friday, December 13, 1963

QUESTIONS RAISED ON MURDER BULLETS

Did a bullet from Lee Harvey Oswald's rifle chip the curb of Main Street near the Triple Underpass?

That question remained unanswered Thursday.

And it raised other questions:

--If one of the three shots from Oswald's mail-order rifle struck the curb, is it possible that another bullet ranged through President Kennedy's body and then hit Gov. John Connally?

--If the chip did not result from a bullet, how did it get there?

Buddy Walthers, an investigator for Sheriff Bill Decker, found the chipped spot less than an hour after a sniper shot President Kennedy and the governor as their car moved slowly over Elm Street toward the Triple Underpass.

"A man came up to me and asked if I was hunting for bullets fired at President Kennedy," Walthers related. "He said he had stopped his car on Main Street and was standing beside it, watching the motorcade, when the shooting started.

"He said something hit him on the cheek hard enough to sting. I checked the area where the man said he had been standing and found the chip in the curb. It was on the south side of the street."

Main runs parallel to Elm on the south.

Walthers and Investigator Sweatt searched the area for about 20 minutes, without finding a bullet. They concluded that if a bullet had struck the curb, the slug had richocheted or disintegrated.

The motorist could have been hit by a sliver from the bullet or a particle of concrete from the curb, they concluded.

The chip appeared freshly made.

It was in line with the path a bullet would have taken if fired from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository building toward the Kennedy motorcade. The trajectory, however, would have carried it above the heads of President Kennedy and the governor.

Walthers and Sweatt were within a block of the slaying site when the sniper opened fire. They agreed with other witnesses that the assassin fired only three shots.

Governor Connally said the first shot struck President Kennedy and the second entered his body.

Then, the governor related, another bullet struck President Kennedy.

That would account for the three shots.

It would not, however, account for the chipped spot.

Various theories have been advanced.

Was Gov. Connally mistaken about what happened during the 10-second period in which the sniper shot him and the President? Did the rifleman fire two bullets into the car, with one striking both President Kennedy and Gov. Connally, and then hurriedly fire a third which passed over their auto?

Or did the chipped spot have no connection with the shooting? Couldn't the motorist have been struck by a speck of gravel thrown up by a car? Couldn't the chip have been caused by other gravel?

FBI and Secret Service agents may have the answers. But they haven't revealed what they learned during their intensive investigation of the murder of President Kennedy.

Baker Probers Agree to Look Into Relevant Moral Conduct

WASHINGTON (UPI) — [illegible] investigating [illegible] of Senator Democrats [illegible] Robert G. Baker [illegible] Thursday to look into [illegible] of moral conduct [illegible] only after [illegible] inquiry into outside activities [illegible] of Senate employes.

The agreement was reached at a closed meeting of the Senate Rules Committee. It was announced by Chairman [illegible] and Republican [illegible] of the committee.

The meeting [illegible] Baker case next Thursday.

The witness will be Mrs. Carole C. Nowak, widow of a Senate employe [illegible] Baker's who committed [illegible]

Questions Raised On Murder Bullets

Did a bullet from Lee Harvey Oswald's rifle chip the curb at 10th Street near the Triple Underpass?

That question remained unanswered Thursday.

And it raised other questions:

—If one of the three shots from Oswald's mail-order rifle struck the curb, is it possible that another bullet ranged through President Kennedy's body and then hit Gov. John Connally?

—If the chip did not result from a bullet, how did it get there?

Buddy Walthers, an investigator for Sheriff Bill Decker, found the chipped spot less than an hour after a sniper shot President Kennedy and the governor as their car moved slowly over Elm Street toward the Triple Underpass.

"A man came up to me and asked if I was hunting for bullets fired at President Kennedy," Walthers related. "He said he had stopped his car on Main Street and was standing beside it, watching the motorcade, when the shooting started.

"He said something hit him on the cheek hard enough to sting. I checked the area where the man said he had been standing and found the chip in the curb. It was on the south side of the street."

Main runs parallel to Elm on the south.

Walthers and Investigator Allan Sawyer searched the area for about 20 minutes without finding a bullet. They concluded that, if a bullet had struck the curb, the slug had ricocheted or disintegrated.

The motorist could have been hit by a sliver from the bullet or a particle of concrete from the curb, they concluded.

The chip appeared freshly made.

It was in line with the path a bullet would have taken if fired from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository building toward the Kennedy motorcade. The trajectory, however, would have carried it above the heads of President Kennedy and the governor.

Walthers and Sawyer were within [illegible] when they [illegible] the chipped spot.

Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry [illegible] agreed with other witnesses that the assassin fired only three shots.

Gov. Connally said all three struck President Kennedy or the car in which he was riding.

Then the governor declared that other bullet struck President Kennedy.

That would account for the three shots.

It would not, however, account for the chipped spot.

Various theories have been advanced.

Will Gov. Connally maintain silence about what happened during the 11-second period in which the sniper shot him and the President?

Did the rifleman fire two bullets into the car, with one striking both President Kennedy and Gov. Connally, and then hurriedly fire a third which passed over their heads?

Or did the chipped spot have no connection with the shooting? Couldn't the motorist have been struck by a speck of gravel thrown up by a car? Couldn't the chip have been caused by other gravel?

FBI and Secret Service agents may have the answers. But they haven't revealed what they learned during their intensive investigation of the murder of President Kennedy.

Rep. Gross Asks Probe Of LBJ Co. Stations

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Rep. H. R. Gross, R-Iowa, Thursday called for a congressional investigation to determine if the Federal Communications Commission gave special consideration to a television station owned by President Johnson's wife.

Gross said the Senate Rules Committee investigating the activities of Robert G. (Bobby) Baker, former Senate Democratic secretary, should also give "full scope" to the LBJ Co.

Mrs. Lady Bird Johnson, who owns a controlling interest in the broadcasting chain with four stations in Texas, has placed her stock in a trusteeship to avoid any possible conflict of interest while her husband holds federal office.

Gross said the Senate committee should be no objection to full disclosure and examination," Gross told the House.

"But if, as alleged by potential competitors, it represents a monopoly in commercial television in a city of 500,000 then the manner of acquisition and maintenance of the monopoly becomes a matter of serious and public concern," he said.

Gross said the Johnson family picked up a multi-million-dollar fortune on this government-controlled radio and television basis "over night" while Johnson was in government office.

"On the basis of available facts," Gross continued, "it would appear that the burden of proof is on the LBJ Co. to demonstrate that the FCC never engaged in any favoritism for a company

story that prompted call to FBI 12/13/6

FD-302 (Rev. 3-3-59) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION INV 5 C

1 Other Individuals and Organizations Involved or Date dictated 12/16/63

Mr. JIM TAGUE, 2424 Inwood, Apartment 253, employed as a salesman, Chuck Hutton Company, 5431 Lemmon Avenue, Dallas, Texas, advised that he was driving a car on November 22, 1963, and was stopped in traffic at the Triple Underpass located below the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) Building. While stopped, he saw that the Presidential Motorcade was going to pass nearby, and he got out of his car and stood near the Triple Underpass between Commerce and Main Streets. He stood near the curb of Main Street waiting for the motorcade to come to where he was standing. When the motorcade was approximately 100 feet from him he heard a loud noise, and at that time he looked around as he thought someone had shot a firecracker. He then heard two more loud noises in quick succession. Other persons in the area then started scrambling around, and he realized that the noises must have been gun shots, so he got behind one of the pillars of the underpass. During the time of the shooting, he felt something hit him on his right cheek. Whatever it was that hit him broke the skin and caused about two drops of blood to flow. He thought possibly that one of the bullets had hit the curb near his feet and possibly a piece of the curbing had hit him in the cheek. He did look around the curb and near where he was standing there was a chip missing, which he stated looked fresh. He stated he did not see anyone with a rifle and did not look at the TSBD Building. He did not see the shots take effect and stated he could not furnish any information as to where the shots actually came from. He stated he is not acquainted with OSWALD and had never heard of him prior to the shooting of President KENNEDY.

He has been in JACK RUBY's club on a few occasions, but he actually knows nothing about RUBY, his associations, or his background. He does know RUBY, however, by sight, since he has seen him in his club on a few occasions. TAGUE stated he did not know of any connection or associations between OSWALD and RUBY.

on 12/14/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 100-10461

by Special Agent HENRY J. OLIVER AND LOUIS M. KELLEY: mam Date dictated 12/16/63

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CR 205 5-1

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Interviewed or Interviewed

K.P.

DL 100-10461
RPG/ds

Following the re-enactment of the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY at Dallas, Texas, on May 24, 1964, considerable publicity was given to the effect that one of the three bullets fired at the time of the assassination went wild.

On June 5, 1964, there appeared an article in the "Dallas Times Herald" newspaper by reporter JAMES C. LEHRER alleging that a Dallas auto salesman had stated one of the three bullets fired during the assassination went wild, crashed into a curb and apparently struck him.

On June 5, 1964, JAMES C. LEHRER, reporter, "Dallas Times Herald," advised SA ALFRED C. ELLINGTON that he had interviewed one JIM TAGUE, aged 27, used car salesman, employed by the Cedar Springs Dodge Automobile Agency, Dallas, Texas, and that a story regarding this interview would appear in the "Dallas Times Herald" on June 5, 1964.

Mr. LEHRER stated that he had made an appointment with TAGUE prior to the interview and, upon his arrival at TAGUE's place of employment and prior to the beginning of the interview, TAGUE inquired of him, "What's in this for me?" Additional conversation with TAGUE disclosed that if his story were worth any money he, TAGUE, desired to receive the money. Mr. LEHRER advised that he told TAGUE he would not know whether his story was worth any money until he "had heard the story."

At the conclusion of his interview with TAGUE, Mr. LEHRER stated he informed TAGUE that his story was "interesting", but was not considered startling and was not believed to be worth any money to anyone.

Mr. LEHRER advised that as he was leaving following the interview, TAGUE requested LEHRER to view three minutes of motion picture film which TAGUE had taken at the Indianapolis 500-mile race depicting the crash and resulting fire which

CR 1245

claimed the lives of two of the race drivers. After viewing this film, TAGUE inquired of LEHRER where he could sell this film and indicated he thought it was worth quite a sum of money. LEHRER advised that he personally felt the film was inferior, but that in order to "get away from TAGUE" he advised TAGUE to call EDDIE BARKER, KRLD-TV, Dallas, Texas, and that BARKER could tell him if the film were worth any money.

JIM TAGUE has been interviewed previously in this investigation, the results of which interview are reflected on page 31 of the report of Special Agent ROBERT P. GEMBERLING dated December 23, 1963, in instant captioned case.

CR 1245

EXHIBIT "E"

THE DALLAS TIMES HERALD Friday, June 5, 1964

WITNESS OFFERS JFK SHOTS THEORY

By Jim Lehrer
Staff Writer

A Dallas auto salesman has memories of a bloody cheek to support the theory that one of the three bullets fired into the Nov. 22 presidential motorcade went astray.

A bullet crashed into a curb some 10 feet in front on him and grazed his face.

"What bothers me is why nobody has taken an interest in my story before," said the 27-year-old man, who asked that his name not be used.

In an exclusive Times Herald interview, he said he was standing by the concrete abutment on the east side of the Triple Underpass watching the motorcade turn at Elm and Houston and proceed toward the underpass.

"There was that first shot, then the second and the third. Some time, I think it was the second shot, a bullet--I'm sure it was a bullet--hit the curb in front of me and I felt a sting on my cheek."

In the confusion that followed, he thought no more about it until a policeman pointed out that there was blood on the right side of his face

"We went back to where I was standing and we saw the creased mark--obviously fresh--on the curb," he said. "Apparently what hit me was the bullet richocheting off the curb, or possibly even a part of the concrete--though I doubt it."

He pinpointed his position as being about in a direct line from the Texas School Book Depository Building on a downward angle in front of the Kennedy car.

His theory is that a bullet fired from the sixth floor of the depository building would have hit the curb in front of him if it had missed the

car and its occupants altogether.

His position was approximately 100 yards from the depository window and 35 to 40 yards from the presidential limousine when the first bullet was fired he said.

The witness said he told his story that day to a Dallas detective at police headquarters and then was interviewed by agents in mid-December.

"The FBI talked to me for about 15 minutes and seemed mainly concerned about whether I knew Jack Ruby," he said.

"I was beginning to doubt myself after a while when nobody seemed to take my information very seriously," said the Dallas resident. "I kept my mouth shut after it became the accepted theory that all three bullets were accounted for."

What made him finally decide to talk about it again was the revelation last week that the Warren Commission had come around to the belief that only two of the three bullets actually hit President Kennedy and Gov. John Connally.

City News

Friday, June 5, 1964

Nazi Pamphlet Invasion Memo

For the 20th time in 20 years, sharp memories will be revived Saturday for Dallas grocer Salvatore Cappello.

He can't [illegible] the falling bombs, the [illegible] of American soldiers [illegible] in the surf [illegible] the constant fire from the German [illegible] at the Cherbourg [illegible] June 6, 1944.

And while the frightened 18-year [illegible] helped launch [illegible] and tracks from [illegible] ship, he saw a paper [illegible] from the sky.

[illegible] know what it [illegible] there, but [illegible] the German plane flying away [illegible] looked at the paper and [illegible] it was some of their propaganda, he said [illegible] his grocery [illegible] Avenue.

Mr. Cappello [illegible] propaganda pamphlet [illegible] 20 years [illegible] is a bit [illegible]

But from time to time he pulls it from his bulfold [illegible] one of the paper's foolish questions.

How long can you keep up with this foolish invasion? That was the question directed to the Allies as they pounded away at the Normandy [illegible]

The question [illegible] the pamphleteer [illegible] Very long [illegible] the [illegible] rendered [illegible] England by the [illegible] planes [illegible] the V-1 rockets [illegible] the Allied forces [illegible]

[illegible] D-DAY [illegible]

Drive Seeks More Support For Joe Pool

[illegible] drive [illegible] in Dallas [illegible] support [illegible] in the [illegible] of an effort [illegible] Robert Baker [illegible] Harris County [illegible] congressional [illegible]

Dallas leaders began the [illegible] after radio and television [illegible] in Houston advocated the election of the Houston man to replace Rep. Pool [illegible] congressman [illegible] the [illegible] of the third [illegible]

City leaders feel that Dallas has [illegible] Congress [illegible] Dallas County [illegible] United States [illegible]

[illegible] Rep. Pool [illegible] Times Herald.

Rep. Pool branded the [illegible] rights bill [illegible] the most [illegible] piece of legislation ever [illegible] considered by Congress." He said he hopes foreign aid will be eliminated within the next few years and that the United States should have continued the quarantine on ships going into Cuba. In South Viet Nam, he said, we should either win or get out.

On domestic questions, Rep. Pool said he supports President Johnson's fiscal policies, opposes [illegible] medicine, supports the President on conservation of natural resources [illegible]

[illegible]

Witness Offers JFK Shots Theory

[illegible]

'Jack B.' Tells How AA Helped Solve His Problem

[illegible]

Note the publicity [illegible] Asking my name [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the wiring system [illegible] completely ideal.

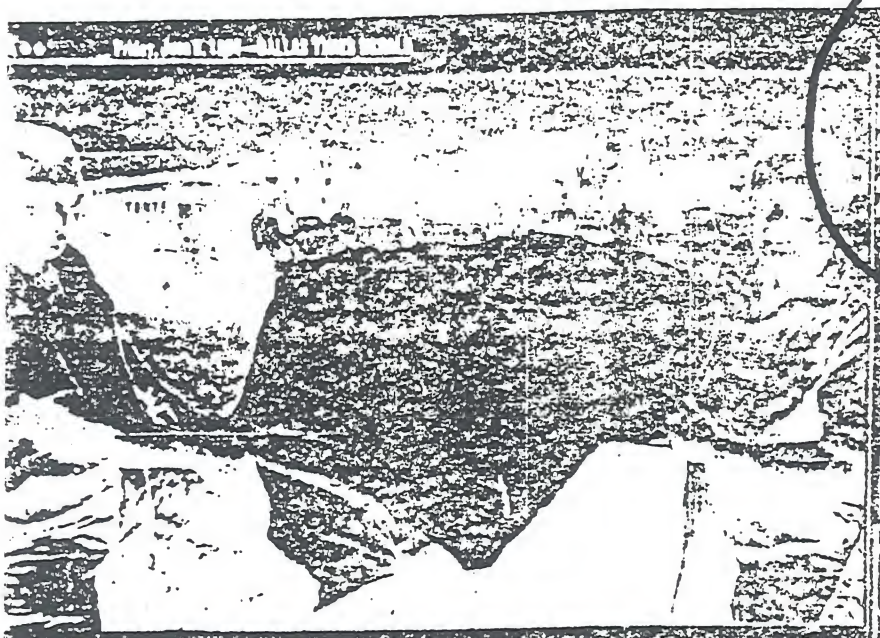
Prosecutors claim Bryant set fire to his restaurant at 1417 Commerce on Feb. 18 in order to collect insurance money. Four Dallas firemen died fighting the blaze.

The state claims Bryant set the fire by [illegible] an electrical fond-warming device in the basement.

DEVICE UNPLUGGED

A former dish washer at the restaurant, Louis Cooper Jr., [illegible] worked during [illegible]

See TRIAL on Page [illegible]



Joe Keeton, left, the Rev. Victor Cooper and tent tabernacle

ght Future ...recast In ...sson Talk

...Dallas may be not only ...larger, but 50 per cent ...well," Mayor J. Erik ...said at the 23rd annual ...of the City Club Thursday.

...riod of growth now lies ..." Mayor Jonsson said in ...titled "Dallas in 1970." ...move ahead unafraid." ...ssed the need for ... ...rsities as well as physi... ...in the coming years.

...Cliburn has done more ...and than perhaps any liv... ...is a decade," he said. ...ing the universal need for ...

WILL USE TENT

Baptists Planning 8-Day Revival

The ardent, venerable Gaston Avenue Baptist Church is forsaking its plush, multimillion-dollar plant to hold an eight-day revival in a carnival-like tent next week.

The tent, measuring 30x150 feet, is white with red trim and blue sidewalls and has been pitched on a vacant lot at Swiss and La...

It is near a plush apartment area Ivan which the church seeks to enlist new members.

"Humility" repeated the Rev. Victor Cooper, minister of education. "Dignity is expendable. We just can't sit here and decline."

EVANGELISM TEAM

"We just must get to the folks. They are not coming to church with Mr. Cooper and Joe Keeton, chairman of the church evangelism committee, taking the lead.

CHILDREN'S TENT

A firm at Waco is renting the carnival, seating 900 persons, for $200. A smaller tent is also being erected to provide entertainment for children preceding the start of the revival services.

Mr. Cooper, formerly with the First Baptist Church at Waco, said the same general scheme was employed there. In Waco, the services were held in the church's parking lot.

At Gaston, services in the parking lot were not held "practical" since the site is in the jet take-off and landing pattern.

East Dallas continues as an area of transition with apart-

End of Draft Won't Hurt, General Says

"Eventual [illegible] plans to end the draft would undoubtedly have some effect on the nation's military reserve system, but the new director of the Marine Corps Reserves does not think that the results would be damaging.

Brig. Gen. J. A. Stewart said in Dallas Thursday that the Marines have only encountered "isolated" recruitment problems, and he anticipates no more in the future.

"A certain number of fine young men are always drawn to the reserves," Gen. Stewart said.

He pointed out that the recent "emphasis on marriage" has caused a slight decrease in enlistment. But our problem is still not in attracting recruits, but in retaining

BIG TOWN SHOPPING CENTER

OPEN NITES

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

BIG TOWN HWY. 80 E AT LOOP 12

F

Other Individuals and Organizations
Involved of Interviewed

Tague, Jim
Rackley, Virgie

AS:mln

MEMORANDUM

(1)

June 11, 1964

TO: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

FROM: Arlen Specter

If additional depositions are taken in Dallas, I suggest that Jim Tague, 2424 Inwood, Apartment 253, and Virgie Rackley, 405 Wood Street be deposed to determine the knowledge of each on where the missing bullet struck. These two witnesses were mentioned in the early FBI reports, but they have never been deposed.

G

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION
ON THE
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

200 Maryland Ave. N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
Telephone 543-1400

EARL WARREN, Chairman
RICHARD B. RUSSELL
JOHN SHERMAN COOPER
HALE BOGGS
GERALD R. FORD
JOHN J. McCLOY
ALLEN W. DULLES

J. LEE RANKIN, General Counsel

AIR MAIL
REGISTERED
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

JUL 9 1964

Mr. Jim Tague
2424 Inwood
Apartment 253
Dallas, Texas

Dear Mr. Tague:

As you know, this Commission was established by President Johnson on November 29, 1963 to investigate and report upon the facts and circumstances relating to the assassination of our late President, John F. Kennedy, and the subsequent killing of the alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. Enclosed for your information are copies of Executive Order No. 11130 creating this Commission, Senate Resolution 137 and the Rules of Procedure of this Commission for the taking of testimony.

Mr. Arlen Specter, a member of the Staff of the President's Commission has been authorized by the Commission to take your deposition or affidavit at the office of the United States Attorney, Dallas, Texas, on July 16, 1964 at 11:50 A.M.

It would be helpful if upon receipt of this letter you would confirm your appearance at the hour requested by contacting Mrs. Martha Joe Stroud, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Office of the United States Attorney, Dallas, Texas.

The Commission is authorized to pay your transportation expenses incurred as a result of your appearance before Mr. Specter.

Thank you for your cooperation in the work of the Commission.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel

Enclosures.

Inv 54

Tague, Jim

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 198

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS, TEXAS 75221

- AIRMAIL -

July 15, 1964

Mr. Howard Willens
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy
200 Maryland Avenue N.E.
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Howard:

This will confirm our telephone conversation to the effect that the depositions set for tomorrow will be postponed until Wednesday, July 22, 1964.

The tentative schedule looks like this:

11:45 Mrs. Donald Sam Baker
12:30 Mr. James W. Altgens
1:30 Mr. Abraham Zapruder
2:15 Mr. Philip L. Willis
3:00 Mr. Warren Reynolds

Mr. Jim Tague advises that he thinks he will be out of town but if he is in Dallas he will call the office and arrange to come in.

Sincerely yours

Barefoot Sanders
United States Attorney

Martha Joe Stroud

Martha Joe Stroud, Assistant
United States Attorney

And we walked up to the -- by this time the motorcycle policeman returned back close to where his motorcycle was, and we walked up there and there was a man standing there. Seeing that he was very excited -- I don't remember his name -- at the time I did have it on the tip of my tongue -- very excited saying he was watching the president and it seemed like his head just exploded. This was a couple or three minutes after this happened.

And the patrolman said,"Well, I saw something fly off back on the street."

We walked back down there, and another man joined us who identified himself as the deputy sheriff, who was in civilian clothes, and I guess this was three or four minutes after. I don't know how to gauge time on something like that.

And I says, "Well, you know now, I recall something stunning me on the face while I was standing down there."

And he looked up and he said, "Yes, you have blood there on your cheek."

And I reached up and there was a couple of drops of blood. And he said,"Where were you standing?"

And I says, "Right down here." We walked 15 feet away when this deputy sheriff said, "Look here on the curb." There was a mark quite obviously that was a bullet, and it was very fresh.

you were hit. We go east along --

MR. TEAGUE: Right here is the curb.

MR. LIEBELER: There is a curb that runs along --

MR. TEAGUE: About 12 to 15 feet right on the top of round of the curb, was the mark that very definitely was fresh, and I would say it was a mark of a bullet.

MR. LIEBELER: Let's put a number eight there where you saw this mark, approximately. You say it is about 15 or 20 feet east of where you were standing?

MR. TEAGUE: No, about 12 to 15 feet.

MR. LIEBELER: East of where you were standing?

MR. TEAGUE: Right.

MR. LIEBELER: At point six?

MR. TEAGUE: Right.

MR. LIEBELER: So we have the point fixed there, and we can just estimate 12 to 15 feet east on Main Street, is that right?

MR. TEAGUE: That's correct.

MR. LIEBELER: That would have been on the south curb of Main Street, is that right?

MR. TEAGUE: It would have been on the south curb.

MR. LIEBELER: About 12 to 15 feet east of the point number six on Commission Exhibit No. 354.

Now you yourself, as I understand it, did not see the President hit?

ground is when I realized there was serious trouble, and I believe that was after the third shot was fired.

MR. LIEBELER: Your impression of where the shots came from was much the result of the activity near number seven?

MR. TEAGUE: Not when I heard the shots.

MR. LIEBELER: You thought they had come from the area between number seven and five?

MR. TEAGUE: I believe they came from up in here.

MR. LIEBELER: Back in the area C?

MR. TEAGUE: Right.

MR. LIEBELER: Behind the concrete monument here between five and seven, toward the general area of C?

MR. TEAGUE: Yes.

MR. LIEBELER: Did you look up near the rail oad tracks in that area after you heard the shots?

MR. TEAGUE: I looked all around. I looked at the complete area to try to find out where the disturbance was. And for some reason, after the third shot, I believe I ducked down back in here.

MR. LIEBELER: Under the railroad tracks?

MR. TEAGUE: Right. Behind an abutment. And when I stuck my head outside, the Secret Service car was just star ing to passunder the underpass.

MR. LIEBELER: The car immediately behind the Presiden I don't think I have any additional questions. Let me ask

you, did you see any evidence of anybody having fired from the area on the railroad tracks above the Triple Underpass?

MR. TEAGUE: None.

MR. LIEBELER: Do you think that it is consistent with what you heard and saw that day, that the shots could have come from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository?

MR. TEAGUE: Yes.

MR. LIEBELER: There was in fact a considerable echo in that area?

MR. TEAGUE: There was no echo from where I stood. I was asked this question before, and there was no echo.

It was just a loud, oh, not a cannon, but definitely louder and more solid than a rifle shot.

MR. LIEBELER: So you, being in a place where there was no echo, you were able to recognize how many shots there were quite clearly?

TEAGUE: I believe so.

LIEBELER: And you say you heard three shots?

EAGUE: That is right.

MR. LIEBELER: There has been considerable testimony from people who were standing up near the corner of Elm Street and Houston that it was hard to tell, but of course, you were standing completely across the plaza?

MR. TEAGUE: I can't recall any echo, not at all.

MR. LIEBELER: Do you remember seeing anything else or observing anything else that day that you think would

be helpful to the Commission, that I haven't asked you about?

MR. TEAGUE: Not that I can think of. There is lots of things that you recall about something like that, that you don't recall for certain. What struck me the most was that everybody said all three shots were accounted for. I felt very strongly that the third shot hit down there, and there was the deputy sheriff and the patrolman down under the bridge right there with me.

MR. LIEBELER: Now you say you thought it was the third shot that hit down there?

MR. TEAGUE: No. I said I thought that all three. All the newspaper accounts for months said all the shots were accounted for.

MR. LIEBELER: In terms of hitting in the car?

MR. TEAGUE: Hitting into the car, yes.

MR. LIEBELER: Well, there was a story in the paper more recently that indicated that one of them might have missed.

MR. TEAGUE: That's right.

MR. LIEBELER: Did you see that?

MR. TEAGUE: That's right, yes.

MR. LIEBELER: Other than that, is there anything that you can think of that you think the Commission should know about of what you heard and saw that day?

MR. TEAGUE: No, I don't know a thing. The only thing that I saw that I thought was wrong was that there was about

notice the time on the Hertz clock. It was 12:29.

MR. LIEBELER: That was about the time that you felt yourself struck?

MR. TEAGUE: I just glanced. I mean I just stopped, got out of my car, and here came the motorcade. I just happened upon the scene.

MR. LIEBELER: Now I understand that you went back there subsequently and took some pictures of the area, isn't that right?

MR. TEAGUE: Pardon?

MR. LIEBELER: I understand that you went back subsequently and took some pictures of the area.

MR. TEAGUE: Yes, about a month ago.

MR. LIEBELER: With a motion picture camera?

MR. TEAGUE: Yes. I didn't know anybody knew about that.

MR. LIEBELER: I show you Baker Exhibit No. 1, and ask you if you took that picture.

MR. TEAGUE: No, not to my knowledge.

MR. LIEBELER: Now in point of fact, that picture was taken by another individual with a motion picture camera, and the picture is not quite as striking as I thought. I confused the picture taken by somebody else with the picture I thought you had taken.

You yourself did take pictures of the area about a month ago?

MR. TEAGUE: Yes. My wife and I were going to Indianapolis. This is the home of my parents. I was taking some pictures of the area to show to them. This was the latter part of May.

MR. LIEBELER: Did you look at the curb at that time to see if the mark was still there?

MR. TEAGUE: Yes.

MR. LIEBELER: Was it still there?

MR. TEAGUE: Not that I could tell.

MR. LIEBELER: Did you meet a newspaper photographer that day and talk to him at all about the assassination?

MR. TEAGUE: The day of the assassination?

MR. LIEBELER: Yes.

MR. TEAGUE: Not that I can recall. I left the area down there at about a quarter to one, and the officer there told me to go to the police headquarters and report to somebody down there and tell them what I had seen.

MR. LIEBELER: Did you do that?

MR. TEAGUE: I did that.

MR. LIEBELER: Now referring to Baker Exhibit No. 1, does that look like it might have been taken from approximately the place where you were standing at the time you got hit, from the same general area?

MR. TEAGUE: I believe I was back further to the left, back down this way further.